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PLAGUE-PREVENTION WORK.

DISTRIBUTION OF POISON.

In connection with the making and maintenance of a squirrel-free zone around the cities of California on San Francisco Bay, 2,172 acres of land in Alameda County were covered with poison during the week ended January 6, 1912.

During the same period 5,700 acres of land in San Joaquin County and 5,920 acres in Stanislaus County were covered with poison for the purpose of eradicating plague foci.

RECORD OF PLAGUE INFECTION.

Places.	Date of last case of human plague.	Date of last case of rat plague.	Date of last case of squirrel plague.	Total number of rodents found infected since May, 1907.
California:				
Cities—				
San Francisco.....	Jan. 30, 1908.....	Oct. 23, 1908.....	None.....	398 rats.
Oakland.....	Aug. 9, 1911.....	Dec. 1, 1908.....	.....do.....	126 rats.
Berkeley.....	Aug. 27, 1907.....	None.....	.....do.....	None.
Los Angeles.....	Aug. 11, 1908.....	.....do.....	Aug. 21, 1908.....	1 squirrel.
Counties—				
Alameda (exclusive of Oakland and Berkeley).	Sept. 26, 1909.....	Wood rat, Oct. 17, 1909.	Oct. 9, 1911.....	114 squirrels and 1 wood rat.
Contra Costa.....	July 21, 1911.....	None.....	Sept. 23, 1911.....	364 squirrels.
Fresno.....	None.....	.....do.....	Oct. 27, 1911.....	1 squirrel.
Merced.....	.....do.....	.....do.....	July 13, 1911.....	5 squirrels.
Monterey.....	.....do.....	.....do.....	Aug. 6, 1911.....	Do.
San Benito.....	June 5, 1910.....	.....do.....	June 8, 1911.....	22 squirrels.
San Joaquin.....	Sept. 18, 1911.....	.....do.....	Aug. 26, 1911.....	18 squirrels.
San Luis Obispo.....	None.....	.....do.....	Jan. 29, 1910.....	1 squirrel.
Santa Clara.....	Aug. 23, 1910.....	.....do.....	Oct. 5, 1910.....	23 squirrels.
Santa Cruz.....	None.....	.....do.....	May 17, 1910.....	3 squirrels.
Stanislaus.....	.....do.....	.....do.....	June 2, 1911.....	13 squirrels.
Washington:				
City—				
Seattle.....	Oct. 30, 1907.....	Sept. 21, 1911.....	None.....	25 rats.

RATS COLLECTED AND EXAMINED FOR PLAGUE INFECTION.

Places.	Week ended—	Found dead.	Total collected.	Examined.	Found infected.
California:					
Cities—					
Berkeley.....	Jan. 6, 1912	5	¹ 118	65	.....
Fresno.....	.....do.....	.....	² 75	75	.....
Oakland.....	.....do.....	10	³ 498	409	.....
San Francisco.....	.....do.....	7	⁴ 1,283	980	.....
Counties—					
San Joaquin.....	.....do.....	.....	⁵ 113	113	.....
Santa Clara.....	.....do.....	.....	⁶ 50	50	.....
Washington:					
City—					
Seattle.....	.....do.....	.....	1,073	1,036	.....

¹ Identified: *Mus norvegicus*, 75; *Mus musculus*, 43.

² Identified: *Mus alexandrinus*, 72; *Mus rattus*, 1; *Mus musculus*, 1; unidentified, 1.

³ Identified: *Mus norvegicus*, 428; *Mus musculus*, 69; *Mus rattus*, 1.

⁴ Identified: *Mus norvegicus*, 657; *Mus rattus*, 187; *Mus musculus*, 305; *Mus alexandrinus*, 134.

⁵ Identified: *Mus norvegicus*, 99; *Mus rattus*, 2; *Mus musculus*, 8; *Mus alexandrinus*, 4.

⁶ Identified: *Mus norvegicus*, 50.

SQUIRRELS COLLECTED.

During the week under report 14 squirrels were found dead in Alameda County, Cal.